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## *A YEAR OF CONTINENTAL LITERATURE.*

### I.

Following our custom of many years, we publish, in this and another issue of THE DIAL, a summary of the reports contributed to "The Athenæum" by various writers, upon the literary production of the last twelvemonth in the principal European countries. The reports summarized in the present article are from Belgium, by Professor Paul Fredericq, from Bohemia, by Dr. V. Tille, from Denmark by Dr. Alfred Ipsen, from France, by M. Jules Pravieux, and from Germany, by Dr. Ernst Heilborn.

Professor Fredericq gives us little more than a catalogue of the year's production in Belgium. M. Maeterlinck comes first, but his new dramatic piece, "Joyzelle," has not been as successful as the "Monna Vanna" of last year. Other plays are "Jéricho" and "Fatigue de Vivre," by M. Edmond Picard, "L'Imposteur Magnanime, Perkin Warbeck," by M. Eekhoud; and "Les Orties," by M. Sander Pierron. The poets are represented by M. Verhaeren's "Les Forces Tumultueuses," and M. Gille's "La Corbeille d'Octobre." The best novels are "Le Petit Homme de Dieu," by M. Camille Lemonnier; and "Les Noces d'Or de Monsieur et de Madame Van Poppel," which latter book completes the series devoted to the Kakebroek family, a Brussels counterpart of Herr Stinde's Buchholz family of Berlin. Being himself a distinguished historian, Professor Fredericq has much to say about writings in his own department. Two books are singled out as particularly important: Professor Vanderkindere's "La Formation Territoriale des Principautés Belges an Moyen Age," and M. Léo Errera's "Les Juifs Russes," which declares the alternatives to be emancipation and extermination. Flemish writers are also briefly discussed. Professor Logeman's reëxamination of the connection between "Elckerlijk" and "Everyman" is of timely interest. Mlle. Marie Belpaire studies the village novelists, from Conscience to Herr Björnson, in "Het Land-

leven in de Letterkunde." "The strongest dramatic work of the year has been the socialistic play by the well-known novelist M. Buysse, 'Het Gezin Van Paemel,' which shows small Flemish farmers at warfare with their village lord, their clergyman, the gamekeepers, and gendarmes, all conspiring to grind them down and reduce them to despair."

Since Dr. Tille wrote his last Bohemian article, the foremost Bohemian poet, Mr. Jaroslav Vrchlicky, has celebrated his fiftieth birthday, and added three books to his list: "Votive Tablets," "The Soul a Mimosa," and "My Country." Mr. Svatopluk Cech's poem, "The Reapers," is also new, and affords "a welcome proof that his creative powers have in no way abated." The Hus celebration has led to a publication of all the works of the martyr, many of them from manuscripts only recently discovered. Sir Walter Besant would have been glad to welcome the following piece of news:

"Amongst other prominent events in our literary world is the realization of a project which was mentioned in last year's report. A number of Bohemian writers have formed an independent publishing society called Máj, the chief object of which is to improve the material situation of literary men and women in this country, and it must be acknowledged that the endeavours of this new society have in a great measure succeeded in promoting the interests of authors. They have helped to raise the fees for literary work, to ensure a greater share in the profits of books for the writers of them, and to protect rights in literary property."

In *belles-lettres*, the following books are noteworthy: "Passion and Strength," a social novel by Mr. Hladik; "From the Native Nest," by Mr. Vaclav Vlcek; "Books of Reminiscences," by Mr. Ladislav Quis; "A Ballad of a Man and His Joys," by the satirist, Mr. Victor Dyk; and two plays based upon early Bohemian history, the work, respectively, of Mr. Hilbert and Mr. Alois Jirasek. "The History of Bohemian Literature in the Nineteenth Century" is a joint work by several writers, and Dr. Tille himself has published a book on "The Philosophy of Literature Under H. Taine and His Predecessors."

"The first point to notice about Danish literature," writes Dr. Ipsen, "is the rapid increase of its mass." The novels of the year have increased to one hundred and eighty, a jump of just fifty per cent. from the year before. But the quality of this writing seems to grow worse. "It is a ruminating sort of literature; the second generation of naturalism seems no longer able to produce vital art, but it has developed a rage for writing and a technical dexterity in the use of the pen which are astonishing." Historical fiction is coming back into favor, but it is now written by naturalists instead of romanticists. The chief work of this class is "The King of All Sinners," by Mr. Laurids Bruun, which "deals with the hereditary sin which is handed down from father to son in unbroken line, and shows how the fate of a physically and mentally degenerate individual, in collision with the demands of a merciless and impersonal society, must be tragic." The number of women writers is constantly increasing, and, as Dr. Ipsen puts it, "every year they produce new, heavy books." Many of them also "affect a rather vulgar taste, and luxuriate in pictures of indelicate and ambiguous love affairs, with details calculated to arouse sensation rather than satisfy the demands of the psychologist and the poet." At the head of this "feministic school" stands Mrs. Agnes Henningsen, whose "Spedalske" treats of "love as a sort of contagious, leprous condition"—truly a charming conception! A very different sort of book is "The Mountain Priest," by Miss Ingeborg Maria Sick, a tale of an orthodox clergyman with whom a modern young woman falls in love. "She wins him but leaves him, seeing that he, through his vehement love for her, is being led away from his higher calling and becoming an inferior man." Herr Valdemar Rördam's "Gudrun Dyre" is "a hymn to sensual love in praise of the flesh, an epic in verse with scarcely anything but love in it, and a theory of the freedom thereof." Peasant literature is represented by Herr Johan Skjoldborg's "Gyldholm," which "has some brilliant pages on the intercourse between the small cottagers and servants on a noble estate, but afterwards degenerates into a socialistic pamphlet." "The edition of the collected works of Dr. Georg Brandes in twelve volumes has been finished, and is now followed by a reprint of his polemical pamphlets, which it would have been better certainly to leave uncollected on account of their bitterness and injustice." Dr. Alfred Ipsen's critical study of this author will soon be completed. Dr. Vedel has published "Heroic Life," which "pictures the primitive life of the ancient world in many countries and phases, as it developed under the strong and brilliant rule of war and the worship of all the warlike virtues." A book somewhat similar in subject, but very different in treatment, is Herr Axel Olrik's "Ancient Heroic Poems of Denmark." It is only a first part, and the author tries to settle solid principles for dealing with the old lays,

which often, under the influence of the great migration, were changed and remodelled. In opposition to the common tendency in the treatment of the sagas and lays, he tries to carry out a poetic and literary principle in his dealing with them An English edition of the book will soon appear."

In his report upon French literature, M. Pravieux begins with the drama. The dramatized novel exists in France also, and is illustrated this year by M. Emile Fabre's stage version of Balzac's "Ménage de Garçon," and M. Henri Bataille's dramatization of Count Tolstoy's "Resurrection." The other noteworthy plays of the year are "Théroigne de Méricourt," by M. Paul Hervieu; "Les Affaires Sont les Affaires," by M. Octave Mirbeau; "La Châtelaine," by M. Alfred Capus; and "L'Autre Danger," by M. Maurice Donnay.

"Novelists, who become more and more numerous in France, may be arranged under two heads. Some remain faithful to the ancient traditional conception of the novel, and confine their studies to one subject only — love. But, unfortunately, the public has for a long time become *blasé*, and as it is difficult to rejuvenate so old a subject as the novel, itself as old as the hills, these writers too often think themselves bound to stimulate the idle curiosity of readers by applying themselves solely to the passions and giving us unwholesome pictures in which art has no part. The others, without altogether refraining from the portrayal of love either in its tragic or its attractive phases, write novels with ideas concerning philosophic, social, and religious questions. In such cases the novel becomes a pretext, or, to be more exact, a process by means of which some theme is brought before the general public, which, stripped of its fictional covering, would, by its mere appearance, scare away the reader. These books are, in fact, treatises disguised as novels. This kind of literature is now much in vogue in France. Scarcely any didactic books are written, or, at least, scarcely any that are written are read."

Among novels of the didactic category we have "L'Etape," by M. Paul Bourget; "Les Deux Vies," by MM. Paul and Victor Margueritte; "La Maison du Péché," by Mme. Marcelle Tinayre; "Le Paradis de l'Homme," by M. Marc Andiol; "Lettres à Françoise," by M. Marcel Prévost; and "L'Inutile Effort," by M. Edouard Rod. In the other category come such books as "La Peur de Vivre," by M. Henry Bordeaux; "Le Roman d'un Agrégé," by M. Léo Claretie; "Dos d'Ane," by M. Louis Boulé; "L'Inconstante," by Mme. Marie de Régnier; and "La Nouvelle Espérance," by the Comtesse de Noailles. Of the present state of French fiction M. Pravieux says:

"The critic with sufficient courage to attempt the perusal of the innumerable novels published yearly in France would doubtless acknowledge that talent is not wanting, though genius is not apparent, and masterpieces are rare. He would admire the gift of accurate and minute observation, the subtle psychology, the force, colour, and picturesque quality of the language — all these attributes of our writers' talents; but that would be the sole profit that our unhappy critic would derive from a gigantic task."

In poetry, factions flourish, and the old order is giving place to the new. The Academy now crowns verse that violates most of the traditional rules, as in the case of volumes by M. Fernand Gregh and the Comtesse de Noailles. The principal quarrel now is between the Parnassians of day before yesterday and the Symbolists of yesterday. The latter include M. Gustave Kahn, M. Jean Morëas, and M. Henri Régnier. The last-named poet, we are informed, "chisels out verse which for sculptural beauty, clearness of contour, and wisdom, is equal to the best work of his master, M. Maria de Hérédia." Of the method and the art of history France is daily approaching a cleaner conception. "History has learned the lesson of accuracy, and has been initiated into the methods of the neighboring sciences — natural history, physiology, psychology, and social science. At a time when history is getting more mastery over its methods, and finds an increasing popularity among the cultured, it also enters into the possession of all sorts of hitherto unexploited resources." Noteworthy historical works of the year are M. Albert Vandal's "L'Avènement de Bonaparte," M. Paul Gautier's "Madame de Staël et Napoléon," M. Gabriel Hanotaux's "Histoire de la France Contemporaine," and, of particular interest to American readers, the work of the Vicomte de Noailles, entitled "Marins et Soldats Français en Amérique pendant la Guerre de l'Indépendance des Etats-Unis." Among works of criticism and literary history, M. Gaston Boissier's "Tacite" is given the first rank.

"He admires Tacitus without idolizing him. He not only praises his merits, but also throws light on his weaknesses, taking care to point out, however, that they belong more to the age in which he lived than to the man himself. This volume arrives in the nick of time to correct the false ideas of the illustrious author of the 'Agricola' held by so many. During the second half of last century no one would recognize in him anything more than a just judge, a contemner of imperial corruption. The next step, to disguise him as a demagogue, was one which was quickly taken. I gather from M. Boissier's book that Tacitus was not a republican in the sense in which we understand the term now."

Other works in this field are "André Chénier," by M. Emile Faguet; "Les Dernières Années de Chateaubriand," by M. Edmond Biré;

"L'Italie des Romantiques," by M. Urbain Mengin; "Hommes et Idées du XIX^e Siècle," by M. Réné Doumic; "Vus du Dehors," by Dr. Max Nordau; and "Les Ecrivains et les Mœurs," by M. Henry Bordeaux. Philosophy and social science have been enriched by M. Eugéne de Roberty's study of Nietzsche, M. Bouglé's "Les Idées Egalitaires," M. de Lanessan's "La Lutte pour l'Existence et l'Evolution des Sociétés," and M. Vandervelde's "L'Exode Rural et le Retour aux Champs." Three noteworthy books of travel are mentioned: "Au Pays d'Homère," by the Baron de Mandat-Grancey; "Sibérie et Californie," by M. Albert Bordeaux; and "Chez les Cannibales," by the Comte Testetich de Tolna. M. Pravieux concludes his commentary by saying that France still worships science, although no longer with the blind zeal of past years. "Fiction, history, criticism, philosophy, and the drama can no longer be independent of science — in fact, they are not. Even the poet, while allowing greater licence to his imagination, recognizes the idea of the world which modern physics supply."

Dr. Heilborn, writing from Germany, takes literature in the restricted sense which recognizes only three classes of productions — plays poems, and novels. Since he writes at length of the works selected for comment, his report is the most interesting of the entire series. He begins with some remarks on the subject of Herr Sudermann's essays upon "Die Verrohung in der Theaterkritik," which he takes to be the wail of a disappointed playwright, who has failed to fulfil his early promise, and who thus scolds the public for its failure to appreciate his work. These essays, he says, "were characteristic of their author, for they showed with terrible clearness that for Sudermann the artist's manifestation of his powers means nothing more than the pursuit of outward success. They showed a man who has been overtaken in the race by more fortunate competitors, who has grown nervous and irritable, and who looks for some external cause to explain his failure." Of the past year as a whole, Dr. Heilborn says that "it has not produced a single great and conspicuous work, but it has brought forth fruits of quiet and honest labour." Some would find an exception to this sweeping statement in "Der Arme Heinrich" of Herr Hauptmann, which even in the present discussion, is placed first and given the most extended analysis.

"Even in his earlier productions Gerhart Hauptmann showed a leaning toward mysticism, by which he sought to subdue, or at least give depth to, realism. He believed in death as the great power that transfigures life; he cast round the secrets of the dying hour a web of hopeful surmise. In his new play, 'Der arme Heinrich,' this mysticism of death has, one may say, become a mysticism of life. Therein and therefrom must life find its regeneration; in mystic self-absorption the sick man must be made whole. At the same time mysticism claims a place in the action of the play as well; it makes a link in the close-wrought psychological chain. The unfortunate Heinrich, smitten by leprosy, sets out to seek the physician at Salerno, accompanied by the maiden who is ready to sacrifice her heart's blood for his sake. He is cured through her unquestioning faith and cheerful self-sacrifice. Not in the sense in which the miracle takes place in Hartman von Aue's poem: there the knight repents at the critical moment, overcome with pity for the fair child whose naked body he sees threatened by the surgeon's knife, and so he starts with her upon his homeward journey as ill as when he came, till finally his deed of mercy awakens God's mercy likewise, and he is freed from his disease."

Next in interest to this work is Herr Arthur Schnitzler's "Der Schleier der Beatrice," a drama of Bologna and the Renaissance period. But this work is a little more than a year old, and we cannot spare the space for an account of it. "König Laurin" is the title of Herr von Wildenbruch's new play, which is concerned with the Goths after the death of Theodoric. Its power is all concentrated in a single scene, which is thus described:

"The Goths, assembled for a carousal, are celebrating the memory of their king, Theodoric the Great, who has recently died; a young Gothic noble, carried away by his enthusiasm, lifts the king's drinking-cup on high and speaks — not, however, of Theodoric the Great, but of Dietrich of Bern. He has seen Dietrich riding in the morning twilight over the sea, his fist clenched wrathfully against his foe, and behind him Hildebrand, his ancient comrade-in-arms, mounted on a gallant steed. He has seen him wrestling with Laurin, King of the Dwarfs, in the midst of the downtrodden rosegarden, when he robbed him of the cloak of darkness. For Dietrich of Bern is not dead any more than his old antagonist Laurin, the destroyer of all fair men — Laurin, who always reappears upon the earth under a new name, and who reigns even now as — the Emperor Justinian!"

Of Herr Heyse's "Maria von Magdala," we read that

"The conflict he raises in his heroine's breast reminds one of Victor Hugo's 'Marion Delorme.' The courtesan, who has now expiated the sins of her former life, might save Jesus from being crucified, if only she would grant an influential Roman access to her chamber; but she refuses to do so in the consciousness that unrighteous means must needs be abhorrent to Him who is righteousness itself. But the conflict, as such, seems an impossible one. It is a degradation of history to combine it with motives of such a kind."

Of plays less weighty in their matter, the following may be mentioned: "Das Thal des

Lebens," by Herr Dreyer; "Die Lokalbahn," by Herr Ludwig Thoma; "Der Heerohme," by Herr Josef Lauff; "Ledige Leute," by Herr Dörmann; "Gerechtigkeit," by Herr Otto Ernst; "Kaltwasser," by Herr Ludwig Fulda; and "Das Dunkle Thor," by Herr Felix Philippi. These pieces are farces or melodramas, and have little literary merit. The drama of popular life seems to be reviving, especially in Austria, and is illustrated by Herr Josef Werkmann's "Der Kreuzwegstürmer" and Herr Karl Schönherr's "Sonnwendtag." In lyric production, the new poems of Frau M. E. delle Grazie, of Herr Hugo Salus, of Frl. Agnes Miegel, and Herr Heyse's "Ein Wintertagebuch" are mentioned. Turning to prose fiction, we begin with Herr Heyse's new "Novellen vom Gardasee," but the author's "capacity for producing direct effects is gone; his craftsman's hand no longer obeys him with absolute certainty. He has declined grievously in power of composition, but he still retains his psychological cunning, he still finds the intrinsically right and necessary solution of his problems." Frau von Ebner-Eschenbach, on the other hand, although well past seventy, has remained young in comparison with the author of "Im Paradiese," and "Agave," her new novel, is a fine production. "His story centres round a pupil of Masaccio, whose life is a perpetual struggle to conquer art and win the woman he loves. But the youth who has shown rare skill as a potter, and in whose designs Masaccio has recognized talent of an unusual order, is denied the gift of art in its higher form, and the impetuous, madly jealous wooer is denied his love." Other fiction of the year comprises "Ein Unglückliches Volk" (the Armenians), by Herr Rudolf Lindau; "Vita Somnium Breve," by Frau Ricarda Huch; "Die Göttinnen; oder die Drei Romane der Herzogin von Assy" (a trilogy in imitation of Sig. d'Annunzio), by Herr Heinrich Mann; "Reigen" (which "describes various Viennese types in the act of satisfying the desires of love"), by Herr Arthur Schnitzler; "Freundschaft," a Norwegian tale by Herr Georg Hirschfeld; "Der Uebergang," by Herr J. J. David; and "Arbeit," by Frau Ilse Frapan. Concluding his article, Dr. Heilborn says:

"A comparison taken from Dr. Ibsen's 'Masterbuilder' might be applied to the literature of this year. No church spires have been erected, nor yet have fancy and desire reared any daring castles in the air; but none the less have we built homesteads where men can dwell — homesteads with nurseries in them."

## The New Books.

### Half a Century of Yale.*

No one is better qualified to give an account of Yale during the last half-century than Ex-President Dwight. As the descendant of a former president, as student, tutor, professor and president, as acting treasurer for two years and occupant of the college pulpit for six and a half, he has had every opportunity to become thoroughly imbued with the Yale spirit, and to make himself master of her traditions and history. His intimate personal acquaintance with the Yale faculty and Yale men of his time enables him to present a series of portraits of extraordinary interest and fidelity. Even the general reader, to whom the university at New Haven makes no special appeal, will find these pen-portraits well worth examining. The amiable idiosyncrasies of the old-time college professor are most pleasantly touched upon by a sympathetic hand; and, to him who chooses to read between the lines, the artist gives many features of his own portrait by showing so inevitably what qualities he most admires in others.

Yale's remarkable growth in the period under review, a growth to which Dr. Dwight contributed so notably, forms an instructive and encouraging chapter in the history of higher education. When Dr. Dwight entered college the whole student body was smaller than a single class of the present day, and the total endowment far less than the annual income now enjoyed by the university. The standard of scholarship has undergone an equal change for the better since the days when the elder Silliman, examining candidates in geography, made grievous complaint of their defective preparation, and cited in illustration the subfreshman's answer to the question, "Who founded St. Petersburg?" "St. Peter," was the ingenious answer. (But it parenthetically observed, as the author points out, that the question had about as little to do with geography as the answer.) Those were the days when the Latin professor's task was largely to bring Cicero into agreement with Andrews and Stoddard's Grammar, and the teacher of mathematics regarded teaching as the one thing farthest removed from his duties. Though we are wont to look back upon that period as an era of plain living and high thinking, our

*Memories of Yale Life and Men. 1845-1899. By Timothy Dwight. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

author ventures to question the necessary connection between the two. As appropriate to this season, and as illustrating the author's genial style, let us cite what he has to say on the subject of vacation, then and now.

"The summer vacation, at that period, continued for only six weeks — Commencement Day being the third Thursday of August, and the autumn term beginning about the twenty-eighth of September. It was not then regarded as necessary for the health of young people that they should finish their yearly studies before the hot weather arrived, or to that of older persons, that they should spend the warm season among the hills or by the seaside. Indeed, for the ordinary citizen, vacations were not looked upon as an essential part of life. They were, in a certain measure, the privilege of boys and their teachers — the teachers having the enjoyment granted them because it was deemed needful that the boys should have it. Why it was universally considered so necessary for the boys, we young fellows never put ourselves to the task of finding out. Possibly the task might have been fruitless, if it had been undertaken. We accepted the fact, and, raising no troublesome inquiries, we felicitated ourselves on the good fortune which the world had consented to give us. It is half a century since then — and I may say, in passing, that I have in all the years followed the wise course of my boyhood and have ever avoided the question which I then put aside — adopting in this regard the comforting theory that 'what is, is right, and what is right is best.' . . . 'Much study is a weariness to the flesh'; and so the resting-time was made to follow the working-time. . . . The scholar fancies, in his boyhood years, that he knows to the utmost the blessing of vacation time. But we may pity his ignorance. It is the teacher who has the full understanding."

Dr. Dwight refers more than once, disapprovingly, to the Spartan discipline that prevailed at Yale for many years after his entrance. The weeding-out process was carried to an excess. In meeting the freshman class for the purpose of administering a word of wholesome counsel at the outset of the college course, President Day was accustomed to remind these young hopefuls, as the simplest and most natural and perhaps most desirable thing in the world, — "Doubtless not more than one-half your number will graduate." This cheerful prophecy was literally fulfilled in the case of Dr. Dwight's class. One hundred and ten entered; fifty-five achieved the bachelor's degree. Not a little of the reform that subsequent years have brought in this matter of discipline is due to Dr. Dwight himself.

As the chief charm of this volume lies in its life-like portrayal of illustrious men now deceased, it will not be amiss to quote somewhat largely from these character-sketches. Referring to the elder Silliman's kindly attitude toward the students, the author relates the following:

"I had presented myself before him, on a certain occasion near the end of my academic course, for an examination on studies in his department. He asked me to take a chair near him in his room, and then, in a way peculiar to himself — a way which was very helpful, rather than embarrassing to the student — he questioned me on various points for half an hour. Then, rising and going to the table, he looked at some papers, and, selecting one, said: 'I suppose you would like to have me give you a certificate that your examination has been satisfactory, which you may hand to the President.' I gave him, of course, an affirmative answer. He then handed me the paper, saying, 'Not doubting that you would pass, I wrote the certificate before you came in.' These last words that he spoke were better, if possible, than my assured success. They have remained in my memory as a part of my mental picture of the man."

But there was nothing weak or childish in this mildness of manner. In all cases of grave importance the old professor was a wise disciplinarian, "a tower of strength," as President Woolsey used to call him. When his son, Benjamin Silliman, junior, became an instructor in the college, the two were popularly, but not disrespectfully, known as Old Ben and Young Ben. As the author observes, such student appellations are oftener affectionate than disrespectful, and the professor who chooses to make a grievance of the matter may well be advised to seek some other sphere of usefulness.

Those who knew the late Prof. Othniel C. Marsh, and who also know Dr. Dwight, will appreciate the humor of the following. Referring to Professor Marsh and to his own presidency, the writer says:

"In his attitude and in his manner of expressing himself, a certain formality was characteristic of him. Especially was this manifest in cases where he sought an interview with others on matters of business, or on subjects of interest with respect to his own particular work. The slight and somewhat peculiar hesitation in his utterance rendered this formality more conspicuous. I was always struck with this singularity of manner when he called upon me, as he occasionally did, for the purpose of securing some minor appropriation of money for his department of the museum. . . . Whatever the object might be, the manner of the man was the same. It was as if we had been two ministers of state having little acquaintance with each other, who had met for the settlement of some great question of public concern. All was serious, with a dignified solemnity, and measured with a diplomatic deliberateness. My own bearing was, as of necessity, determined by his. One could not talk after the ordinary method, and with the freedom of a common conversation, when the other party in the interview seemed to place the subject and the discussion on a plane so much higher. I was not able fully to equal him, but my approaches to his standard were, for the time and by reason of effort, so near to it that I think he was satisfied. I could, indeed, be as immovably serious in my look, as he could himself be. This is a gift for

which I have sometimes felt that I ought to be grateful. My look, also, in a measure, solemnized my speech; and so, with the friendly spirit which we always had, we moved on with a reasonable success. But I used often to think, just after such an interview had closed, of the possibilities of the thoughts on the two sides respecting it. Did either of the two parties quite understand the impression produced on the mind of the other? Was the look of either quite the same that it had been a few moments before? It is enough, no doubt, to know that all is well that ends well."

President Woolsey's personal force is strikingly illustrated by an anecdote. A certain class, dating about forty years ago, had planned an entertainment of some sort, accompanied with dancing, and much interest was felt in the success of the occasion. But, as is not unusual in such college events, considerable partisan excitement had been aroused, and this excitement increased as the appointed day drew near, until the final issue became a matter of some anxiety.

"Without the knowledge of the class, the President, at a late stage of the controversy, was made aware of the condition of things. He met the emergency at once in his own mind, and on the morning of the day before the entertainment was intended to be given — when all thoughts were eager with expectation and doubtful as to a peaceful result — he rose in presence of the assembled company of students, and said: 'I understand that a plan has been formed by the Senior Class for a ball to-morrow evening, and that much contention has arisen in the class respecting certain matters connected with it. There will be no ball.' The question was immediately settled for every member of the class, and the excitement died away because its cause was removed."

The author's views on various matters of college education and administration are set forth impressively, not to say convincingly. Speaking of the measure of power to be granted to the executive head of a college or university, he refers to the extreme view of those who would clothe the president with an authority similar to that of the head of a great commercial establishment; and he also cites the suggestion of President Woolsey that the president's office be superseded by something like the rectorship prevailing in German universities. The Yale system has ever been, and is now, a sort of compromise between these two. Although the president has the right of veto on all faculty action, he governs with the advice and consent of his faculty; and this plan Dr. Dwight regards as the best, and as adapted, in all essential points, to the spirit of the times. On the question of shortening the college course, now furnishing matter for considerable discussion both wise and foolish, Dr. Dwight pronounces emphatically for continuing the old order of things, and advises the shortening of the preparatory curriculum, so that the boy may enter college at sixteen or seventeen, instead of eighteen or nineteen. He holds that if a young man finishes his academic and his professional education, and enters on the serious business of life, at twenty-six, that is early enough.

To all in any way interested in education, as well as to those who take a special interest in Yale, Dr. Dwight's book is most heartily to be commended. The only regret is that its five hundred pages of varied and entertaining matter are followed by no index. Portraits, as well as views of buildings, are lavishly supplied.

PERCY F. BICKNELL.

## THE ONLY PRESIDENTIAL IMPEACHMENT TRIAL.*

No gift of prophecy is required to see that, as time gives the proper perspective, the period of Reconstruction following the Civil War will command a paramount interest in the history of our country. As a crisis when the scales of life or death for representative government trembled at the equipoise, it surpasses any moment of the great war which produced it. During the time of the appeal to arms, there could be little question of the outcome after the policy of coercion had been determined upon and the people had rallied to the call. The overwhelming odds in favor of Northern numbers, equipment, and resources, made the conquest of the protestants a matter of human endurance. Free government was never for an instant in real danger in the North. The aim was simply the preservation of the Union, with all its forms intact.

But Reconstruction changed Northern feelings and aims completely. Flushed with victory, the conquerors, in their attempt to "reconstruct" the Union, struck at the vital principles of self-government. The building was threatened with destruction in the effort to restore it. One portion of the people was to be held subject to the other. The policy decided on required the erection of an autocratic empire on free soil. No rights were to be accorded a conquered minority.

But suddenly the action checked itself. A unanimity of opinion in this sudden perversion was not to be hoped for; and this very difference brought on a conflict between two branches of the victorious national govern-

* THE IMPEACHMENT AND TRIAL OF ANDREW JOHNSON, Seventeenth President of the United States. By David Miller Dewitt. New York: Macmillan Co.

ment, which, while further jeopardizing freedom, distracted attention from the unfortunate people of the South.

If the attention of the radicals, whose existence was due to the necessary force-measures of the war, had not thus been drawn away from the objects of their wrath to centre upon President Johnson, one hesitates to predict the permanent injury which might have been wrought to the principles of free government. In this sense, Andrew Johnson was a vicarious sacrifice. And as such he is pictured in an excellent history of his impeachment and trial by Mr. David Miller Dewitt. In this, the author has not been blind to Johnson's faults, although frequently inclined to gloss them over. The President by chance faced a problem which would have tried the powers of the president chosen by the people; yet "Andrew Johnson was not Abraham Lincoln," as the author says. "His personal self-sufficiency, his unbounded confidence in the rectitude of his public acts, and the steady fire of his combativeness," are phrases which indicate the final estimate of him.

One must not expect this volume to be free from partisanship in behalf of Johnson. Sometimes this is shown by writing down his enemies, especially Stanton. "The Genius of Duplicity" is summoned to guard the shade of the ex-Secretary of War, as the testimony of Sumner is recalled showing Stanton's private opinion of Grant while soliciting an office at his hands. John Sherman is accused of juggling the order of charges in the final vote, "to avoid an utter loss of self-respect." The cry of Sumner for a verdict of "guilty" is compared with the tirades of Robespierre in the Convention. Thaddeus Stevens, the most implacable of Johnson's enemies, is treated with greater leniency, perhaps because he was always a fair fighter. The accusation is made that "the two Nebraska senators fulfilled the contract of their admission" by voting "guilty."

In no part of the book is the author more interesting than in his description of the dragooning to which the doubtful senators were subjected just before the vote in the Impeachment trial. "From Maine, from Illinois, from Kansas, from Rhode Island, from West Virginia, from Tennessee, — resolutions, letters, telegrams, delegates, all demanding the conviction of the President and denouncing the least hesitation on the part of his Republican triers." He shows the risk a statesman runs who pares oppose his personal convictions against party policy. This was especially true of Senator Ross of Kansas, whose political career was cut short by his negative vote. Ross wrote a vindication of his action, which was printed at Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1896, his place of residence at the time, but which the present author evidently did not use. Senators Trumbull of Illinois and Doolittle of Wisconsin were also conspicuous victims to the vengeance of party rule.

The conclusions from this concise study of the trial may be found in these words:

"Had this first impeachment eventuated in the removal of the Chief Magistrate, a precedent would have been established of the most fatal character — constituting a perpetual menace to the stability of our executive, a spreading blight upon our character and credit as a nation, a standing reproach to the republican form of government, and gradually leading to a national habit of capricious political convulsions to put one president in place of another such as have disgraced some of the republics of Central and South America. . . . Never will the practice of deposing presidents by political impeachment become domiciliated in this republic. Centuries will pass by before another President of the United States can be impeached, unless the offense of which he is accused is clearly non-political and amounts unmistakably to a high crime or misdemeanor."

EDWIN ERLE SPARKS.

### A CENTURY OF EXPLORATIONS.*

Explorers, archæologists, philologists, and historians have found mines of wealth in the territory commonly designated as "Bible Lands." Ruins of ancient cities, temples, palaces, tombs, and towers, have yielded large results within the past century to the persistent and well-equipped explorer. Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Assyria, Babylonia, Persia, and Arabia have produced rich harvests for the student of ancient oriental times, and of the Bible.

Professor Hilprecht's bulky volume, of 810 pages, is an attempt to present in popular form the explorations of a century in five lands which figure more or less in the Bible. The editor has contributed to the book 577 pages on the "Resurrection of Assyria and Babylonia." Of these, the first 288 pages summarize the explorations and expeditions in those countries from early times down to the present, devoting the greater amount of space to the activities of the nineteenth century. This section traverses largely the same terri-

*EXPLORATIONS IN BIBLE LANDS DURING THE 19TH CENTURY. Edited by Prof. H. V. Hilprecht, University of Pennsylvania. Illustrated. Philadelphia: A. J. Holman & Company.

tory as Rogers, in his "History of Babylonia and Assyria," Vol. I. pp. 1–253. In clearness and directness of statement it does not equal Rogers, but in the multiplicity of facts that are presented it surpasses that earlier work.

The most elaborate section of the volume, very naturally, is that devoted to the American excavations at Nuffar (pp. 289–568). It discusses with minute detail the history and progress of that series of campaigns from 1888 to the present time. It is evident to the impartial reader, before he gets far into the narrative, that this section of the book is taking on a controversial character. The editor soon pits himself against Dr. John P. Peters, the director of the first two campaigns (compare pp. 321–2, 327–8–9, 339 note 1, 408, 415). Throughout the whole of the treatment, the reader is now and then so forcibly reminded of an unpleasant controversy that his ardor over the recital of brilliant discoveries is chilled. Disputes and disagreements as to the proper method of conducting excavations may always arise between leaders of campaigns, but it hurts public confidence and public respect to witness such wranglings. Professor Hilprecht has done valuable service in publishing the texts issued some years ago, and in popularizing information on discoveries in the Orient, and in determining some of the technique of ancient Nippur. These are certainly eminent services to knowledge. Therefore we are the more chagrined to find so much valuable space and time, in a work for popular circulation, given to the discussion of matters that gratuitously disturb the peace of mind of the reader.

This whole section reveals to us Nippur as one of the great cities of a great past. The revelations made through the campaigns of the University of Pennsylvania must re-cast our conceptions of the civilization of Babylonia in the fourth and third millenniums B.C., and consequently greatly modify all former views of the beginnings and growth of the most ancient civilization of the world.

The section (pp. 623–690) on "Excavations in Egypt," by Professor Steindorff, is well written, and gives the reader a very fair conception of many of the best results of exploration on the Nile within a century. Of course, the space at his disposal is manifestly cramped, but it has been wisely employed for the benefit of the lay reader.

Professor Hommel has presented (pp. 691–752) a good bird's-eye view of "Explorations in Arabia." The hazardous work of Glazer within recent years has made this dangerous field more fascinating and valuable than ever before. With the exception of some technical philological matters, the reader will get much of value in this story.

"The So-called Hittites and their Inscriptions" is the theme discussed by Professor Jensen of Marburg. His article is an exposition of his own method of deciphering the Hittite inscriptions, — a method that finds in them kinship with the language of modern Armenia. This article will be of least interest to the popular reader, because of its technical matter.

The entire volume is profusely illustrated; the reproductions from photographs are generally admirable, while those made from drawings are quite uneven in value. The four maps accompanying the book are excellent, and aid the reader in localizing the travels of explorers and points of explorations. The volume is issued in sumptuous form, printed on calendered paper, with beautiful clear type, with a smaller size in the foot-notes. These foot-notes are full of valuable bibliographical matter, such as the scholar or investigator may wish to examine in further research. The volume occupies a position quite unique in the history of exploration in Bible lands, and gives to the public the editor's large service in this great work, — a service whose character and scope as here represented have unfortunately stirred up a warm contention among scholars.

IRA M. PRICE.

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### THE CONSPIRACY OF AARON BURR.*

One of the most interesting chapters of American history is that which relates the conspiracy of Aaron Burr. Perhaps the interest arises from the fact that this episode seems to be so wholly out of keeping with the general character of American events. That a man of political influence and ability, a former leader in republican councils, engaged in the prosy profession of law and living in the rather unromantic century just past, should suddenly take to knight-errantry and set out to win himself an empire, is a matter that we should hardly expect to find recorded in our own matter-of-fact annals. And the mystery that pervades the whole undertaking serves to heighten the romance.

For a long time, historians were in doubt as

*THE AARON BURR CONSPIRACY. By Walter Flavius McCaleb. New York: Dodd, Mead, & Co.

to what Burr's real purposes were. Did the conspirators plan to wrest Mexico from Spain, or the Mississippi Valley from the United States? Or did their purpose embrace both these ends? For nearly a century the problem waited for a satisfactory solution; but when Mr. Henry Adams, in his masterly history of the Jeffersonian period, declared Burr a traitor, it was thought that the matter had been finally disposed of. The evidence seemed conclusive, and scholars settled down to the belief that in the early years of the nineteenth century a vast conspiracy existed in the West looking toward the establishment of a mighty empire extending from Pittsburg to Panama.

But the present year has produced a work on this subject which students of history will read with great interest. Dr. McCaleb's work is the result of several years' research; it makes a book of about 350 pages, and impresses the reader as a remarkably thorough effort. In addition to the older, fairly well-known, material, the author has made use of sources hitherto unknown. His exploitation of Texan, Mexican, and British archives, has added much to our knowledge, not only of Burr's conspiracy, but also of kindred subjects.

Dr. McCaleb takes the position that Burr's plans were directed against Mexico only. The evidence formerly relied on to prove Burr's traitorous intentions exists in the form of a few letters. There is also the testimony of Generals Wilkinson and Eaton; but no historian who values his reputation would dare depend on their statements. The former is infamous as the most successful traitor, and one of the most consummate prevaricators, that our history knows. The latter is also a suspicious character. Dr. McCaleb is certainly safe in arguing that a man who could urge the President to send as our minister to Spain or England one whom he knew to be intriguing with the representatives of those very nations, and to have threatened to assassinate the President and to loot the capital, can hardly be accepted as a trustworthy witness.

Mr. Henry Adams lays great stress on Burr's own statements to the English and Spanish ministers. But Dr. McCaleb contends that these were but "a consummate piece of imposture." Burr needed funds, and England and Spain were thought willing to assist any venture that looked toward the dismemberment of our Union. Hence they were asked to finance a fictitious revolt or to pay for mythical secrets. This interpretation is at least plausible.

Burr's famous letter of July 29, 1806, in which he unfolds his plans to General Wilkinson, has long been looked on as furnishing the key to the whole conspiracy. But Dr. McCaleb shows that this letter is capable of at least two interpretations, of which the older seems the least probable. The author also makes good use of Clark's letter to Wilkinson, which Mr. Henry Adams construes as a warning against one Mr. Minor, of Natchez, who was supposed to have revealed the secrets of the conspirators. But the letter, when cited in full, appears to be more than this: it is a warning against a man who invents and circulates absurd tales.

The author is not satisfied with weakening the evidence of the prosecution. He proceeds with a positive argument along three principal lines: The West hated Spain, and longed for an opportunity to help liberate Mexico; the Mississippi Valley was loyal to the Union, not even the Creoles at New Orleans plotted sedition; the panic that struck the country when Burr's expedition finally started south was largely the result of Wilkinson's activity in circulating false and alarming reports. The parts of Dr. McCaleb's work that deal with the state of public sentiment in the West are particularly strong and enlightening.

The older view is manifestly shaken. Burr himself may have had traitorous designs, but that cannot be known. The author rarely tries to apologize for Burr, and succeeds rather poorly when he does try. But the New York lawyer was not alone in the conspiracy. With him were associated such men as Blennerhassett, Dayton, Senator Smith, and perhaps Andrew Jackson. It is hard to believe that these and others, knowing the opinions of their neighbors, would join in a venture that public sentiment would not support for a moment.

In some respects, Dr. McCaleb's book is not wholly satisfactory. The author at times almost ceases to be a historian and becomes something of an advocate. And in this connection it should be said that his treatment of Jefferson is rather unfair. Burr, on the other hand, is permitted to display his better side almost continuously; it is to be feared that the picture of the conspirator which would develop in the mind of the general reader would be decidedly unlike the original. Perhaps the literary critic will tell us that the unity of style is largely impaired by the introduction of documentary material into almost every page of the text. But after all these things have been said, the fact remains that Dr. McCaleb

has presented his thesis in a clear, scholarly and convincing manner. That he has made a notable contribution to American history, cannot be doubted. Whether the world of scholarship will accept his conclusions, remains to be seen.

LAURENCE M. LARSON.

## RECENT FICTION.*

A book by Mr. Robert Hichens is sure to offer something disagreeable for our contemplation, and "Felix" offers no exception to the rule. In this case it is a woman who is a morphine-eater, and the effects of this loathsome vice are studied with unsparing pathological frankness. She is a married woman of thirty or thereabouts, and Felix is an innocent youth of twenty — so innocent, in fact, that he does not discover the failing of his divinity until late in the chapter, although it is Polichinelle's secret to the rest of the world. The trouble with Felix is that he thinks he knows life when he doesn't. This delusion is born of the singular circumstance that when he leaves the public school, instead of going to the university he packs off to France, and spends a year in a provincial town. While there he makes the acquaintance of a tailor who once made a pair of trousers for Balzac, and has been daft on the subject of the great man ever since. This starts Felix to reading the "Comédie Humaine," which he devours from first to last. Thus equipped, he believes that he knows the human heart in all its manifestations, and goes home to apply his knowledge. He falls an easy victim to the *morphinomane*, and when he learns the truth, his faith in books — even in the books of M. de Balzac, — is considerably shaken. The story is thoroughly unpleasant; it can profit no one to read, and may not even be described as entertaining.

Mr. E. Phillips Oppenheim, who gave us "The Traitors" a few weeks ago, now gives us "A Prince of Sinners." On the whole, we prefer the weaver of adventurous romance in an imaginary Balkan kingdom to the topical novelist of modern London. "A Prince of Sinners" gives us dubious philanthrophy of the social settlement type and bad economics in a defence of the miserable sophistries of protectionism. The hero is a young man who espouses both these causes, and who at the same time carries on two love affairs so skilfully that we are kept guessing until the very end. The prince of sinners is the father of the youth, who had deserted wife and child many years before, and caused a fictitious report of his death to be spread abroad When he reappears in England, it is as the wealthy Earl of Arranmore (he having succeeded unexpectedly to the title and estates), and in his endeavor to be helpful to the career of his son (who does not recognize him for a time) the relationship is discovered. Even then the son will not accept his newly-found father, but persists in the attempt to carve out his own career under his assumed name. It is a case of pride against pride, but in the end the older man makes a great concession, and the younger man gives in. The lesser social types depicted are presented with an easy skill that betokens familiarity with several phases of modern English life. Barring the inherent improbability of its scheme, the story is a readable one.

Mr. F. Frankfort Moore has gone back to Cromwell's ravaging of Ireland for the subject of his latest novel, "Castle Omeragh." The action covers the period from Drogheda to Clonmel, and we are given a vivid picture of the horrors which have made "the curse of Cromwell" a potent and sinister watchword to this day. These dreadful happenings are kept mostly in the background, but we are made to realize them none the less, and to understand how they have kept Irish passion inflamed ever since. The actual theme of the romance is the attempt of a small detachment of Cromwell's forces to capture an outlying stronghold, and the eventual triumph of its defenders. A double love-story figures conspicuously in the plot, which is interesting and well-developed, and open to criticism only on account of its serious use of the supernatural motive of crystal-gazing. Cromwell himself appears briefly upon the scene in the closing chapters.

Mr. Quiller-Couch is always a welcome visitor

*FELIX. A Novel. By Robert Hichens. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co.

A PRINCE OF SINNERS. By E. Phillips Oppenheim. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co.

CASTLE OMERAGH. By F. Frankfort Moore. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

THE ADVENTURES OF HARRY REVEL. By A. T. Quiller-Couch. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

ROBIN BRILLIANT. By Mrs.' Henry Dudeney. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

PIGS IN CLOVER. By Frank Danby. Philadelphia: The J. B. Lippincott Co.

A SPECTRE OF POWER. By Charles Egbert Craddock. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, & Co.

LOVE THRIVES IN WAR. A Romance of the Frontier in 1812. By Mary Catherine Crowley. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co.

THE VOICE IN THE DESERT. By Pauline Bradford Mackie (Mrs. Herbert Muller Hopkins). New York: McClure, Phillips, & Co.

THE LEGATEE. By Alice Prescott Smith. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, & Co.

UNDER THE ROSE. By Frederic S. Isham. Indianapolis: The Bowen-Merrill Co.

THE GREY CLOAK. By Harold MacGrath. Indianapolis: The Bobbs-Merrill Co.

GORDON KEITH. By Thomas Nelson Page. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

A GENTLEMAN OF THE SOUTH. A Memory of the Black Belt, from the Manuscript Memoirs of the late Colonel Stanton Elmore. Edited without change by William Garrott Brown. New York: The Macmillan Co.

THE SUBSTITUTE. By Will N. Harben. New York: Harper & Brothers.

THE REDFIELDS SUCCESSION. A Novel. By Henry Burnham Boone and Kenneth Brown. New York: Harper & Brothers.

to our reading-table, for his mastery of ingenious and humorous romance insures us a session of enjoyment whenever a new book comes to hand from his pen. The number of his books is now sixteen — a fact which we hardly realized until we counted them in the list which accompanies the new volume — and nearly every one of the sixteen evokes some memory of delight. "The Adventures of Harry Revel" is a story of the surprising adventures of a foundling, who leaves the institution that has sheltered his childhood to become an apprenticed chimney-sweep. His experiences in this capacity soon launch him upon a surprising series of adventures, which end by his taking ship for Portugal as a bugle-boy in the English army. The time is that of the Peninsular War, and the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo occupies the closing chapters. The story is told in the first person, and the hero is only fifteen years of age when we take leave of him, but it must not be inferred from this fact that the book is one of merely juvenile interest. Far from this, it deals with such matters as the murder of a Jewish miser, a smuggling episode on the Cornish coast, the mock marriage of a beautiful girl, and the Virgilian translations of her venerable father. With all these things the boy becomes mixed up as a witness, and occupies the centre of the stage most of the time. Nor must we forget the quaint and delightful figure of the old maid whose special charge he is at the foundling's home, and whose addiction to verse-writing provides the author with an opportunity for the display of his most genial humor.

With every new novel by Mrs. Henry Dudeney, we feel more and more impressed with the idea that a mantle of similar cut to the one worn by Mr. Thomas Hardy rests upon her shoulders. This variation of the usual metaphor is necessary because Mr. Hardy is fortunately still living. Mrs. Dudeney's rustics are of the same race as Mr. Hardy's, and her account of their environment gives us a similar sense of the earthiness that clings to unsophisticated humanity everywhere. She gives us with marvelous fidelity the raciness, the dry humor, the superstitious notions, and the peculiarities of dialect that survive in rural England to this day, and that contact with culture seems powerless to modify. This persistence of rude primeval types of life and thought in the vicinage of civilized conditions is impressed upon us with singular force by the two novelists whose names are thus naturally linked together, and remains dominant in our recollection of their work. Yet "Robin Brilliant," Mrs. Dudeney's new novel, is by no means chiefly concerned with rustics; on the contrary, its interest is centred almost wholly about a man and a woman who stand for generations of aristocratic culture, and the background of village and rural life serves only as artistic relief. But somehow the background strikes us as being the most genuine part of the book. The characters of both hero and heroine are wrought with exceeding subtlety of analysis — the woman even more so than the man, as is inevitable in a woman's novel — but the pale cast of thought that comes with over-civilization makes it impossible for either of them to act with conviction and determination. The right path, the path of contentment, if not happiness, lies plainly before them both, but the man wavers, and the woman balks at decision, and the outcome is satisfaction with a lower ideal for the one, and a future of proud but dreary isolation for the other. Modern life affords such types and such situations, no doubt, but they are not creditable to modern civilization.

"Frank Danby" is the pen-name of a woman who writes novels under the tutelage of Mr. George Moore. At least, this was formerly the case, but since a recent acrimonious exchange of discourtesies between the two in the columns of "The Saturday Review," we presume that the relation of master and disciple has been dissolved. We are not acquainted with the earlier books of this writer, but her new novel "Pigs in Clover," is calculated to attract attention. The influence of Mr. Moore's literary methods is evident in the realism of this social study and in its unabashed handling of disagreeable types and situations. In the interest of the story she has to tell, we should say that the pupil had outdone the teacher. We do not altogether approve of the artistic methods which she employs, but are all the time impressed by the fact that the work is a product of an intensely conscious art, in which every effect is carefully planned, and nothing left to chance on the impulse of the moment. "Pigs in Clover" is not an engaging title, and will probably keep many readers from the book thus unfortunately christened. It is the contemptuous phrase which one of the characters — a blue-blooded lady — uses to describe the *nouveaux riches* of English society. The particular application of this phrase is to the South African millionaire, for the time covered by the novel includes just the years in which the mining-fields of the Rand reached their highest development, the years preceding and including the raid of Dr. Jamieson and its striking consequences. Rhodes and other actual characters figure in the novel under their own names; still others appear in easily penetrated disguises. The political point of view maintained by the writer is that of imperialism, and she justifies the English attitude during the years that preceded the outbreak of the war by pleading the paramount interest of a superior over an inferior civilization. The brutality of the individual Boer and the corruption of the Boer government are painted in colors so dark that any measures, whether of defence or aggression, seem warranted. The book is not, however, in its essence, a novel of Boer and Englishman in South Africa; it is a novel of Jew and Gentile, of parvenu and aristocrat, in London. Still more essentially is it a novel of individual passion, of the incredible lengths to which a woman's devotion may lead her, even when the object of her attachment is a man of the most despicable meanness and selfishness. For with all its variety of

other interests, this is the leading motive of the novel, and this is the relation which brings it to a tragic close. It is hard for us to accept as possible a woman so enslaved as Joan, or the power to charm of so miserable a wretch as Louis Althaus. That the author holds in deadly earnest her belief in the reality of the relation she so remorselessly depicts is made evident by the striking statement made of her thesis in advance of its application:

"There is a mystery known to all who know men and women, to all who have insight into, sympathy with, or understanding of, their fellow-travellers, but it is blank and incomprehensible to the Pharisees, and to all who would read and run at the same time. This is a mystery that fills the divorce courts, mocks the incredulous, and sets at naught all creeds and convictions. It is that a certain something, subtle, sweet, and rare, not a perfume, not a touch, but an echo of both, light, elusive, all-pervading, is the special property of some loose-living men, a property that is beyond the reach of analysis, but recognisable in the freemasonry of the passions by all who have realised its existence. It is as the candle to the moth, as the rose to the butterfly, as the magnet to the steel. It is a surface lure of sex, it is an all-compelling whisper, almost it seems that to hear it is to obey."

This passage, which cannot fail to attract the attention of the most casual reader, will doubtless be singled out, and rightly so, by every serious reviewer as the most noticeable thing in the book. And yet, convinced as we may be of its truth, the application in the present instance strains our credulity to the breaking-point. We may account for the second of the two women whom the man of fatal fascination gets into his toils, for she is intellectually undeveloped, and of the type that falls an easy prey to such seductions. But with Joan the case is widely different. She is a woman of character, will-power, and intellectual ability — to put it bluntly, she is Miss Olive Schreiner externally modified for the specific purposes of the novel — and we are unwilling to admit that a woman of this type could be brought permanently under the obsession which the author of "Pigs in Clover" would have us accept. The situation seems to us radically untrue, and for this reason, for this reason only, profoundly immoral.

We commonly think of Wolfe's victory at Quebec as ending the struggle between France and England for the possession of North America. But it must be remembered that for four years after that memorable engagement on the Plains of Abraham the two nations were still at war, and were technically enemies in the New World no less than in the Old. Their ambitions forever thwarted in Canada, the French still had hopes in the Southwest, and were intriguing with the Indian tribes of Mississippi and Tennessee for the furtherance of their designs. Their idea seems to have been to organize a confederacy of Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Cherokees, which, in alliance with the French, should oppose a formidable barrier to the English advance over the mountains, and which should occupy in the South a position not unlike that occupied in the North by the Long House of the Iroquois nations. These plans and this situation form the historical setting of Miss Murfree's latest novel, "A Spectre of Power." The time is the last year of the Seven Years' War, and the scene is placed in those Great Smoky Mountains which the author has so often described in the glowing language of enthusiasm. An exceedingly interesting story is built up about these historical and geographical accessories, a story of military operations and diplomatic intrigue, of romantic love and picturesque Indian adventure. Miss Murfree has made a careful study of the Tennessee Indians of the eighteenth century, and she possibly makes this fact a little too evident, for not only are there notes at the back of the volume, but there are also interspersed through the text many matters of Indian dialect, folk-lore, and ceremonial that are not altogether to be justified by the exigencies of the plot. A better reason for their being may be found in taking them as necessary contributions to the study of Indian character which is brought into the plot with great ingenuity and sympathetic understanding. The author is not content with the externals that satisfy most writers of this sort of fiction, but must give us the psychology of her Cherokees. It is certainly a subtle psychology, fairly supported by the historical evidences adduced here and there, and is artistically convincing. Of its absolute truthfulness we have no authority to speak, nor do we greatly care about the matter. Considered simply as a story, "A Spectre of Power" is extraordinarily interesting and its literary workmanship is very fine indeed. We rather resent the way in which the affections of the captivating Miss Lilias are shifted from the Frenchman to the Highlander, but the latter turns out a tolerably acceptable hero after all, although at first he appears to be a peculiarly graceless cub. The phrases in which the author describes the mountain scenery of the country she knows so well have all the old charm for us; they constitute an impassioned form of prose that appeals powerfully to the poetical sensibilities, while remaining prose in the strictest sense, and never degenerating into merely rhapsodical utterance. It is many years since Miss Murfree has given us as extensive a performance as the present one, and her book is very welcome indeed.

English, French, and Indians are again brought into romantic relations for us in "Love Thrives in War," a story by Miss Mary Catherine Crowley. The opening year of the War of 1812 provides the historical setting for this romance of Northwestern history, which begins with Hull's disgraceful surrender of Detroit, and ends with the reoccupation of the city by the American forces. Tecumseh, the Prophet, and Tippecanoe are among the many historical characters who appear. The story as a whole is rather lifeless, and suffers severely in comparison with the distinguished work of Miss Murfree. The characters are of the hackneyed conventional sort, and every incident of the action is of a type that has been used hundreds of times before.

Miss Pauline Bradford Mackie (Mrs. Hopkins)

is making marked advances in the pursuit of her art. Her new novel, "A Voice in the Desert," has both delicacy and charm; it can hardly be said to possess strength. The story is of the Southwest, presumably Arizona, and concerns a few transplanted Easterners, noting the fascination of desert life for each and all of them, and depicting its subtly modifying influence upon their characters. Life under these conditions seems to grow tranquil if not apathetic, and the natural human passions assert themselves but languidly. One of the characters — the clergyman's wife — indeed revolts, and makes her escape; but even she returns after a season, impelled by the desert fascination. A sand-storm adventure, graphically depicted, lends a certain degree of excitement to the closing chapters, and helps to bring about the final sentimental adjustment.

Mrs. Alice Prescott Smith's "The Legatee," is not unlike the book just mentioned in its general characteristics. It has a charm that almost amounts to distinction but is somewhat lacking in the elements of strength. The scene is a Wisconsin lumber town, with its mixed population of Belgians, Swedes, and native Americans, and the time is about thirty years ago. The characteristics of village life, with its petty preoccupations, its dull round of toil, and its narrow religious bigotry, are given us from intimate knowlege with an unsparing pen. In one respect we think that the writer errs. A labor agitation occupies an important part in the story, and the type of thought and activity portrayed is one familiar enough to us nowadays, but one which had hardly appeared in this country as early as 1870. A wayward and altogether charming heroine is found in the daughter of the village physician, and the not unsatisfactory hero is the Southerner who, as his uncle's legatee in the ownership of the lumber mills, finds his coming heralded by prejudice, and his every act met with suspicion. How he eventually conquers respect and sympathy is interestingly described. The disastrous forest fires of the autumn of 1871 are made use of in the final chapters, and bring the narrative to a picturesque and dramatic close. The author of this novel is a young woman, and "The Legatee" is her first book. We are bound to say that she has made a more than creditable beginning of what we trust may prove a successful literary career.

"Under the Rose," by Mr. Frederic S. Isham, is a historical romance of the time of Francis I. The Duke of Friedwald, seeking the hand of a princess of the royal family, makes all the necessary negotiations, and then repairs to the court disguised as a jester, in order to make the acquaintance of his future consort in an unconventional way. Meanwhile, a notorious robber baron, learning of the Duke's matrimonial ambitions, plots to cut off his journey to the court, and himself, impersonating the Duke, endeavors to consummate a marriage before the imposture shall be discovered. A pretty situation is thus developed, but it ends somewhat unexpectedly, for the jester-duke, after thwarting the schemes of his rival, becomes enamoured of another woman, and the princess is tricked of both prospective husbands. The matter of the romance is too thin to keep up a sustained interest, and the trappings of the various scenes are too artificial to make any impression of verisimilitude. In a word, the story drags all the way through, and displays little of the true quality of romance.

This quality is provided, on the other hand, in superabundant measure by Mr. Harold MacGrath in his romance of "The Grey Cloak." This book is preëminently an example of "how to do it," as contrasted with the "how not to do it" example of Mr. Isham's story. It is historical enough to satisfy the conscience of those readers who would balk at a work of fiction which was pure invention, yet it has invention enough to gratify the most ardent passion for exciting adventure. It has, moreover, a literary quality that is at least respectable, and that does not suffer overmuch from padding and cheap rhetorical devices. The characterizations are excellent after the stagy fashion that is inevitable in such a story, and the sequence of incident is surprisingly well-knit. Historically, the book is a romance of the time of Mazarin, the scene being about equally divided between Old and New France. Thus we get court intrigue and roystering in the first half, and in the second half garrison life and Indian adventure. Taken altogether, this romance is one of the best of its kind; its interest is unflagging, and it affords an abundant measure of not unprofitable entertainment.

For the second time, Mr. Thomas Nelson Page presents us with a novel of large dimensions. The new work is entitled "Gordon Keith," and suffers somewhat in the comparison with "Red Rock" for the reason that its interest is more scattered, and its plan does not have so definite a historical background. It is essentially a novel of the personal fortunes of the hero, who is the son of a Virginian gentleman of the old school. The war has ruined the family fortunes, the plantation has fallen into the hands of an alien, and the boy is thrown upon his own resources. How he achieves success from humble beginnings, struggling for an education, teaching a country school, getting work as a mining engineer, and eventually acquiring large interests in the enterprise which his energy has developed — this is the outline of his career. The setting is greatly diversified, including the life of the plantation, experiences in the lawless mining community of the Virginia mountains, scenes in the homes and marts of New York, and episodes of foreign travel. There are also characters in almost bewildering variety, and we barely become acquainted with one set when we are hurried away into another company. All of these scenes and characters, together with the author's many dramatic and sentimental inventions, are united in a structure of reasonable coherency, yet one that is not easy to keep in view as a whole. Ethically, the story always rings true; its ideals are of the sincere and manly type, and the hero in

whom they are chiefly embodied is one whom it is a pleasure to follow on his toilsome path to success. Mr. Page is too practised a hand at novel-writing to allow the interest to flag, to hold the reader too long in suspense at critical moments, or to make any of the false moves that so frequently lessen the effectiveness of otherwise excellent works of fiction.

The late Colonel Stanton Elmore, of the Confederate army, who died in London a few years ago, left certain manuscripts, among which was a novel called "A Gentleman of the South." This is now edited and published by Mr. William Garrott Brown. These facts are gravely stated in the preface to the novel, and we record them with equal gravity, but we have a dark suspicion that the Colonel and his story alike are creations of the editor's invention. The story is a simple one, related in admirable English, and deals with the after consequences of an old family feud originated by the father of the leading character. Of this character, and the age in which he lived, the putative writer says that they belong "to a world so completely vanished that I sometimes feel as if I never lived in it save in dreams. It was a world so different from the present, and governed by such different laws that I am not at all confident of getting any reader's credence for the story I wish to tell. Many will doubtless think it impossible that men should within this century have lived such lives, obeyed such codes, set themselves such standards." Although the story is a simple one, it is a little difficult in exposition, and inference must be kept busy in the opening chapters before we come to a clear understanding of the relations existing between the small group of persons concerned. The atmosphere clears after awhile, and the narrative then goes straight forward to its tragic ending. There is a delicate distinction about the author's style that is grateful to the literary sense, but Mr. Brown may hardly be said to have the gift of the novelist, and his peculiar powers appear to better advantage in the essay and the historical study.

Mr. Harben's novel called "The Substitute" is the sort of book that exists chiefly for the opportunity which it offers for the author to work off a collection of long-winded yarns about nothing in particular and other examples of homely rustic humor. The material thus offered seems genuine, and is doubtless for the most part observed rather than imagined. The scene is Northern Georgia, and most of the characters are plain country folk who speak the vernacular. An old man, who has committed a crime in his youth, is so filled with remorse in remembrance thereof, that he seeks in some way to atone for it. He hits upon the original plan of picking out a promising youth, educating and giving him a start in life, and making a man of him generally. This young fellow is to be the substitute which he presents to society in place of himself. The hero thus brought into being proves an interesting personality, and his love affairs come out happily. But the thread of the narrative is a slender one, and the book must stand or fall by its character sketches. Mr. Harben's particular field is one that was long ago preëmpted by Richard Malcolm Johnston, but we think that the genial old Colonel, could he have lived to read this book by his successor, would have bestowed upon it his smiling approval.

Messrs. Boone and Brown, who collaborated in the writing of "Eastover Court House," have again joined forces in the production of a Virginia novel. "The Redfields Succession" is the title of this book, which tells how an impecunious newspaper reporter comes unexpectedly into possession of a Virginian estate, enjoys it for awhile, learns that he has no moral right to it after all, sacrifices it by resorting to what verges upon a criminal device, and in the end is suitably rewarded for what he has done. The scene of the story is laid in Virginia, for the most part, and has a good deal to do with fox-hunting and other less strenuous social festivities. The book has no style worth speaking of, and its plot is of the most elementary sort, but it is the product of intimate first-hand observation, and has an easy-going quality that makes it pleasant reading.

WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

## *NOTES ON NEW NOVELS.*

Having written an international novelette in which a bright but penniless American girl weds a stupid Englishman of family and little else, Lilian Bell (Mrs. Arthur Hoyt Bogue) follows it with a sequel, "The Dowager Countess and the American Girl" (Harper). It is the sort of story that does not make for international amenity. From it one gleans that all the Englishmen of the better class are debauchees, and none of their women chaste. The heroine is an undesirable ideal of an American woman; generally speaking, she acts like a snob, dresses like a *cocotte*, and speaks a various language, partly ungrammatical and partly slang, — and that without being in the least aware of it. That the book is interesting is, however, undeniable — much in the way in which an *enfant terrible* is interesting to its parents.

Mrs. Burton Harrison's new novelette, "The Unwelcome Mrs. Hatch" (Appleton), is a story of a woman with a past who cannot live it down, although her sin was without premeditation, and her career thereafter exemplary. The author's motive seems to have been divided between her sympathy for the woman and her knowledge that she cannot be upheld in the face of our literary and social conventions. The result is disastrous to the unity of the work, and leaves its conclusion absolutely impotent. If such a theme is not to be treated with the frankness of the French, it had best be left alone, — a conclusion reflecting rather upon the author's art than her good will. There is no compromise, evidently, with the Sunday School story.

"The Tu-Tze's Tower" is the unusual name of an unusual book by Miss Louise Betts Edwards, published by Messrs. H. T. Coates & Co. The heroine, a woman of birth, refinement, and station, is nevertheless possessed

of a *wanderlust*. This has led her to wed an explorer, and the book opens with his death in the interior of China, stricken down before he could attain his goal in the country of the Man-Tze, an independent and predatory folk on the Chinese frontier. He bequeathes to his widow the task of searching out this people and making them known to the anthropological world. It will be seen that the promise for unusual complications is great when it is said that the Tu-Tze, the ruler of this people, falls in love with the pretty widow and refuses to take "no" for an answer. And, indeed, few fresher and more readable stories have been set before the people recently. There is abundant humor and considerable character study, mingled with the most thrilling events. The one drawback to the book will be found in its rather desultory beginnings; these past, it will be difficult to lay down.

Mr. Morgan Robertson has succeeded in writing "Sinful Peck" (Harper) with never a feminine character in it from cover to cover. The result is rather refreshing in these days of insistent "heart interest." The book continues the story of the crew of lake sailors who once manned the good ship "Almena" and brought its voyage to an untimely conclusion, as told in an earlier tale by Mr. Robertson. In the present narrative the author brings into notice the recent statutes for the better protection of seamen, in the enactment of which he can assert no small share. The book is eminently readable by those who like sea stories — and what man does not?

Having given a weaver and poacher of northern England certain heroic qualities, Mr. C. J. Cutcliffe Hyne has little difficulty in keeping him heroic in several ways, in his new book, "Thompson's Progress" (Macmillan). "Thompson" attains great commercial success, and at the same time is able to marry successfully and to keep up his out-of-door habits. Like so many recent stories, this is told in episodes, each complete in itself, though forming a continuous whole. The book is really interesting, its one defect being found in its author's failure to eliminate the repetitions that its serial publication demanded, wholly needless in the printed volume.

The person who conceals his identity behind the initials "J. P. M.," or its partial expansion into "J. P. Mowbray," has written a story of the South of to-day under the title of "The Conquering of Kate" (Doubleday). It deals, as did its predecessor, with life in that part of Pennsylvania which is rather of the old South than of the North. There is a selection of types from the folk of the locality, some of them of the "poor white" class, and all of them unusual and interesting. The book has a tendency to melodrama foreign to this writer's earlier work, all of the characters unnecessary for the fall of the curtain meeting with sudden death, — by no means the most artful of devices.

A quaint little story of early New England is told by Mrs. C. Emma Cheney in "Mistress Alice Jocelyn, her Letters: In Which be set Forth an English Maydes Voyage to the Province of Maine, and what did Befall her Thereafter" (The Blue Sky Press). Told, as the title indicates, in epistolary form, the first of the little letters is dated at Black Point in the province of Maine, August 20, 1642, while the last brings the story down to Christmas Day in 1655. They are addressed to Philippa, sister of Alice, and are only nine in number. It is their peculiar merit that within so small a space the full story of a woman's passion coming to its maturity should find expression, while giving incidentally a vivid account of life as it was lived in what was then a remote wilderness. Mrs. Cheney has done well with her archaisms in idiom and spelling, such exaggerations as they exhibit being essential to the atmosphere of the work.

Among books of real delight, Mr. C. Hanford Henderson's "John Percyfield" (Houghton) deserves high place. It is one of the most charming of love-stories, and it is a great deal more. The hero stands as a type of the American gentleman, in all the dignity and grace of that fine old term, his ancestry being of Pennsylvania and New England stock; while the heroine represents a similar status of cultivation in Louisiana. They meet in Switzerland, at a *pension* filled with the spirit of romance. But the pretty story of the love of Margaret and John forms but a small part of the book. In it may be found the reflections of the hero on all sorts of subjects, politics and economics most of all. Mr. Henderson, like many another modern American writer, has not hesitated in using the virile and pregnant phrases in our spoken language which have not yet found full literary acceptance.

Miss Una L. Silberrad has given her readers a man of complete engrossment in chemistry as the hero of "The Success of Mark Wyngate" (Doubleday). So complete is this engrossment that there will be a tendency throughout the book to quarrel with him for his density in affairs of the heart. By way of conclusion, Mark Wyngate attains commercial prosperity, but at a fearful and tragic cost. The book as a whole is original — "novel" seems to be taking on its older meaning in recent writing, — and it presents a series of strange pictures of modern life. The sombre undercurrent of the work is relieved by many touches of humor, leaving the impression of an art well controlled.

Since the removal of various disabling acts, the Roman Catholics of England are playing a larger and larger part in British fiction, as in the national life. In "The Light Behind" (John Lane), Mrs. Wilfrid Ward has drawn a strong picture of social and political life, her protagonist being a woman most unhappily wedded to a dissolute nobleman, but strong enough to live a life of active good in spite of her lord's wickedness. Unloved as she is, she centres her interests in the advancement of a young Catholic writer, to whom her charm as a woman of the world makes an appeal too strong for his powers of resistance. He stands ready to give up faith, his brilliantly promising future, and life itself; but a fate merciful to them both takes her away at the psychological moment. The book abounds in well-drawn characterizations of the governing class in many ramifications, and is enlightening in more respects than one.

Detective stories are usually favorites for summer reading, but the number of them that have been based on murder mysteries make a story of counterfeiting, such as Mr. Will M. Clemens has written in "The Gilded Lady" (Dillingham), rather tame by comparison. The story is of the United States Secret Service. It begins with an attempt on the part of the narrator, a member of the force, to ascertain the facts about a privately-owned steam yacht. After a little it is discovered that the owners are engaged in the criminal occupation of making silver dollars of real silver and somewhat more valuable intrinsically than the authorized coin. At one point in the story it is argued that the advocates of the ratio of 16 to 1 are really placing

the country in the hands of such counterfeiters, though the conspirators are making millions out of the existing system. The book concludes with a tirade against the modern metropolitan newspaper, rather too fierce to be convincing, and rather out of keeping in a book apparently intended to amuse.

Mrs. Nancy Huston Banks has written a second novel, "Round Anvil Rock" (Macmillan), more of an historical romance than her previous story, but with a surer and more varied art. This, too, is a story of Kentucky, but of a Kentucky at the beginning of the fourth decade of the last century, when there was but one house of two stories in the commonwealth, and that built of cedar logs. It is rather authentic history turned into romance than romance pure and simple, and many historical characters, — General Jackson, Jo Daviess, Peter Cartwright, and others, among them — will be found described and characterized. The effect of the book will be to heighten Mrs. Banks's literary reputation.

Dane Kempton, a poet and man of letters happily married and living in London, and Herbert Wace, a sociologist studying for his doctor's degree at the University of California and affianced to a young woman graduate, discuss the question of love in an anonymous book bearing the title of "The Kempton-Wace Letters" (Macmillan). It is apparent, of course, that it would be difficult to find points of view more completely antipodal than those occupied by men of such pursuits and training. To the poet, love has in it "the awfulness and splendour of God," to the other it is something susceptible of analysis in all its bearings, a companionship for purposes of work, its roots founded on the cry of the race for perpetuation. How right Kempton is, and how wrong Wace, the last two letters in the volume, from Hester, Wace's affianced wife, to her over-intellectualized lover, abundantly indicate; and there will be few readers of the book to dispute her verdict. The debate is an unusual and profitable one, interesting from beginning to end, and full of sound philosophy and right reasoning.

In Miss Frances Charles, now that a second novel from her hand permits comparison, America has found a writer still in the flush of youth, with marked powers of discrimination and characterization and a downright genius for analysis. "The Siege of Youth" (Little, Brown & Co.) is a story of three men and three women in San Francisco, and of the working out of three several romances, each along lines quite distinctive. In the six protagonists of the narrative there is a mixture of races such as this country alone can show, and the interplay of temperament has its place in their development. There is a knowledge of life truly profound, and, above everything else, a close portrayal of the true Bohemia — that land worshipped so by those who can never hope to touch its shores because the bark of respectability that bears them is of too heavy a draught. A little method Miss Charles has adopted, of sketching her story before giving it in detail, is in her hands a means of grace and strength.

International romances are being written quite as much on the other side of the Atlantic as on this, in convincing proof of the Anglo-Saxon *entente cordiale*. Katherine Tynan (Mrs. Hinkson), with "A Red, Red Rose" (Lippincott), is the last to add to their number. A brother and sister, orphaned children of a wealthy American manufacturer, buy an estate from an old English family, of which the sole survivors are a father, impoverished by youthful excesses at the gambling-table, and his sadly disappointed son. An Irish rector in the neighborhood has a lovely daughter; two dukes near-by have, respectively, a brother and a daughter; there is a young and wealthy widow close at hand; and after twenty-five chapters of getting them all adjusted the story closes in one more, appropriately called "Marrying and Giving in Marriage."

A collection of short stories by Mr. George Moore can hardly fail to be interesting, though the component members of "The Untilled Field" (Lippincott) are, with hardly an exception, written for a definite purpose, rather than as proofs of their author's undoubted art. The stories are, emphatically, stories of the Irish people. One doubts neither the author's means of information nor his entire good faith, and his readers will be forced into an agreement with him much against their will in many instances. The Roman Church, throughout the stories, takes the puritanical attitude which was observable in Mrs. Humphry Ward's "Helbeck of Bannisdale," and the result is widely at variance with the aspect the Church presents in the United States. So far as the Celtic attitude toward art is concerned, Mr. Moore is the bearer of bad tidings, for there appears to be no real national response whatever to the revival in which he has been so forward. The book will be certain to provoke discussion, — it would hardly be Mr. Moore's if it did not.

A collection of short stories, remarkably various in their themes and interests, have been collected from the magazines by Mr. Arthur Colton under the name of "Tioba, and Other Tales" (Holt). Some of them deal with city life, and these are the best; others find place in central New York; one is of the Civil War. The length of these tales is as varied as their contents, ranging from a mere *conte* to a novelette. Collectively, they leave a pleasant impression, but one which seems not to be fixed in any way, as if they were all tentative efforts rather than fully matured work. The stories are, in fact, too scattered over the literary possibilities to argue more than an undeveloped sense of power.

Mr. Guy Wetmore Carryl, heretofore known only as a purveyor of merry tales in rhyme, grows desperately serious in "The Lieutenant-Governor" (Houghton), and exhibits a knowledge of the labor movement and labor contentions in no way an advance upon the views in Charles Reade's "Put Yourself in His Place," the work of an aristocratically inclined Englishman a long thirty-three years ago. Reactionary sentiment of this sort is the more curiously belated because of the real intelligence shown in the premises by a score of other novelists recently. Here, everyone in sympathy with labor is a man devoid of principle, respect for law, and common-sense; all the sympathizers with capital, on the other hand, are not merely rich and well placed, but have a monopoly of the virtues as well, whether these be individual, social, or civic. The story is short, well written, and well put together. But it is woefully behind the times, and entirely unconvincing to those who do not think with their prejudices.

"Josiah Flynt" reveals anew his wonderful grasp of the life led by actual — as distinguished from fictional — criminals, in "The Rise of Ruderick Clowd" (Dodd, Mead & Co.). The thief, burglar, and all-around criminal whose deeds the work recounts, is real, and as unlike the customary criminal of literary commerce as can well be imagined. Much of the consummate vulgarity of his life is necessarily concealed in its detail, though

it is suggested to those who know, and must color the story in the direction of the verities to those who do not. Indeed, the most daring parts of it are those dealing with Ruderick's relations with womankind. Not many of the man's innumerable crimes are set forth with any particularity, Mr. Flynt wisely selecting a few typical cases and permitting these to stand for the rest. The intention is to describe a career of crime in its entirety, beginning with the nameless boy who steals first to help his mother, and carrying him through the reform school and penitentiary to an old age of sufficient respectability, but still untouched by regret or remorse.

## NOTES.

"Martin Chuzzlewit" has been added to the "Fireside" Dickens published by Mr. Henry Frowde.

"Westward Ho!" in two volumes, is the latest issue in the new library edition of Charles Kingley's novels published by Messrs. J. F. Taylor & Co.

"How We Are Fed," by Mr. James Franklin Chamberlain, is a new geographical reader in the "Home and World Series" published by the Macmillan Co.

"The Virgin Birth," by Dr. Allan Hoban, is the first number in a new series of "Historical and Linguistic Studies in Literature Related to the New Testament" which is published by the University of Chicago.

A "Supplementary List of Books for Township Libraries" is printed at Madison, Wisconsin, under the direction of the State Superintendent of Schools. It offers a graded selection of titles from the publications of the past year.

New decennial publications of the University of Chicago are as follows: "The Essentials of a Written Constitution," by Professor Harry Pratt Judson; "Logical Conditions of a Scientific Treatment of Morality," by Professor John Dewey; "The Definition of the Psychical," by Professor George H. Mead; and "New Instruments of Precision from the Ryerson Laboratory," by Professor R. A. Millikan.

Volume VI. of "The Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association" is just published in bound form, and includes the four numbers ending with last April. It includes much interesting matter, such as the reminiscences of Mr. C. C. Cox and other early Texans; an account of "Louis Juchereau de Saint-Denis," by Mr. Robert C. Clark; "The Tampico Expedition," by Mr. Eugene C. Barker; and "The Disturbances at Anahuac," by Miss Edna Rowe.

"From the Beginnings to Shakespeare" is the title of the first volume of a collection of "Representative English Comedies," now being prepared under the general editorship of Professor Charles Mills Gayley, and published by the Macmillan Co. The enterprise has long been in hand, and we are glad to note its materialization. This initial volume gives us special essays on Heywood, Udall, Stevenson, Lyly, Peele, Greene, and Porter. The author of the essay also edits a play in each instance, Mr. A. W. Pollard dealing with Heywood, Professor Ewald Flügel with Udall, Professor Gummere with Peele, etc. Then the volume has a general introduction by the general editor, an essay on "Greene's Place in Comedy" by Professor Woodberry, and an essay on "Shakespeare as a Comic Dramatist" by Professor Dowden. Other volumes of the series are reported as being now well under way.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[*The following list, containing 49 titles, includes books received by* THE DIAL *since its last issue.*]

### *BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.*

Notes and Reminiscences of a Staff Officer, Chiefly Relating to the Waterloo Campaign and to St. Helena Matters During the Captivity of Napoleon. By Lieut.-Col. Basil Jackson; edited by R. C. Seaton, M.A. Illus. in photogravure, etc., 12mo, gilt top, pp. 218. E. P. Dutton & Co. $2.50 *net*.

Chapters from a Musical Life: A Short Autobiographical Narrative. By Mrs. Crosby Adams. With portrait, 12mo, pp. 139. Chicago: Crosby Adams. $1.

### *NEW EDITIONS OF STANDARD LITERATURE.*

Letters and Literary Remains of Edward FitzGerald. Vol. VI., with photogravure frontispiece, large 8vo, uncut, pp. 461. Macmillan Co. $3. *net*. (Sold only in sets of 7 vols.)

Works of Charles Dickens, "Fireside" edition. New vol.: Martin Chuzzlewit. Illus., 12mo, pp. 963. Oxford University Press. $1.

Westward Ho! By Charles Kingsley; with Introduction by Maurice Kingsley. In 2 vols., illus. in photogravure, 12mo, gilt tops, uncut. J. F. Taylor & Co.

The Essays of Elia. By Charles Lamb; edited, with a Preface, by William Macdonald; illus. by C. E. Brock. 12mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 317. E. P. Dutton & Co. $1.50 *net*.

The Alchemist. By Ben Jonson; edited, with Introduction, Notes and Glossary, by Charles Montgomery Hathaway, Jr., Ph.D. 8vo, uncut, pp. 373. "Yale Studies in English." Henry Holt & Co. $2.50.

### *FICTION.*

The Mettle of the Pasture. By James Lane Allen. 12mo, pp. 448. Macmillan Co. $1.50.

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### *NATURE AND SCIENCE.*

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### *BOOKS OF REFERENCE.*

The Rhyming Dictionary of the English Language. By J. Walker; revised and enlarged by J. Longmuir, A.M., LL.D. 12mo, pp. 720. E. P. Dutton & Co. $1.50 *net*.

Cumulative Index to a Selected List of Periodicals, Fourth Annual Volume, 1899. 4to, pp. 381. Cleveland: Cumulative Index Co.

Boston: A Guide Book. By Edwin M. Bacon. Illus., 16mo, pp. 190. Ginn & Co. $1.

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### *EDUCATION.—BOOKS FOR SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.*

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